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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rodney G. Johnson Examiner: Unknown
Serial No. 10/663,436 Group Art Unit: 2653
Filed: September 15, 2003 Docket No. PA0891.ap.US
Title: SHUFFLING APPARATUS AND METHOD

MAIL STOP DD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The following documents are being submitted:

- Information Disclosure Statement (4 pages)
- Form 1449
- Copies of 2 references
- CD labeled "Shuffler Art"
- DVD Labeled "Luciano Decl. Ex. K"
- DVD Labeled "Solberg Decl. Ex. C"
- DVD Labeled "Morrill Decl. Ex. A"
- DVD Labeled "Exhibit 1"
- Transmittal Sheet
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers if an additional extension of time is deemed necessary by the Office. Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account Number 50-1391 if such additional extension is necessary.

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.

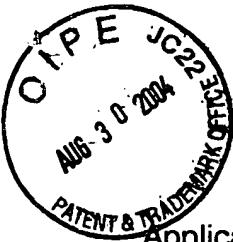
York Business Center, Suite 205, 3209 W. 76th St.
Edina, MN 55435 (952-832-9090)

By: Mark A. Litman
Atty: Mark A. Litman
Reg. No. 26,390

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 27, 2004.

Mark A. Litman
Name

Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rodney G. Johnson

Examiner: Unknown

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) or (c)**

MAIL STOP DD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) respectfully submit(s) the items of information on the enclosed Form 1449 for the attention of the Examiner in the above-identified application.

This statement should be considered because it is either filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits or it is submitted after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311. No fee is due since this statement is submitted either before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits or is certified under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies that this statement is submitted wherein each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counter part foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

A copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) and/or a copy of each document is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office in a parent application in accordance with
37 C.F.R. §.1.98(d).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103. In addition, Applicant(s) do(es) not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended, and reserve the right to establish otherwise under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or others.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. According to M.P.E.P. §609, Applicant(s) request(s) that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments that may be deemed necessary to Deposit Account Number 50-1391.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The materials provided herewith include information that either came to the attention of counsel for applicants or was recently created during litigation involving patents assigned to the assignee of this application. Certain of these submissions are in a form that is not printed as they are incapable of being printed (e.g., the DVD's of interviews).

Many of these materials were crafted by counsel in litigation against Shuffle Master, Inc. with a studied intent at showing that information was available in references and devices that could raise an issue regarding the validity of the Shuffle Master, Inc. Patents. The tone of the content of such materials can therefore be expected to be antagonistic.

Applicants cannot confirm dates that are specifically mentioned in the documents and note that there are some disagreements among the authors of the documents about certain dates, even where the authors were both witnesses for defendants against Shuffle Master, Inc. It is further to be noted that because of claims to priority in the Shuffle Master, Inc. patents, whatever the import of content in these submitted materials, the dates of publication, availability, knowledge or use (under the standards of 35 USC 102(a-g)) may or may not make that content unavailable as a reference against some or all claims in this and other Patent Applications and Patents.

It is to be further noted that some of the materials describe the development of devices and prototypes over the course of years, during which changes were made in the design of the described devices and prototypes. Time reference to the inclusion of changes and the actual date on which those changes became available as prior art may well be difficult to confirm by reading of the materials, even though these materials are the best information available to Applicants.

In at least one declaration (Declaration of Pfeiffer), information within the declaration relates to information to which the declarant asserted confidentiality. There

is an unresolved legal question as to whether that information (specifically the operation of the prototype) would be available as a reference because of 35 USC 102(g). This material might or might not be material to patentability, even if publicly available, which Applicants believe it is not because of the continued claim of Pfeiffer that the material is confidential.

Respectfully submitted,
RODNEY G. JOHNSON
By His Representatives,

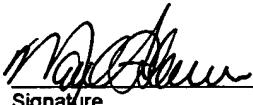
MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
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(952) 832-9090

Date: AUGUST 27, 2004

By: 
Mark A. Litman
Reg. No. 26,390

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 27, 2004.

Mark A. Litman
Name


Signature



Examiner:	Date Considered:
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